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PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 02906.0349-01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Patrick R. LANCASTER, III et al.) Group Art Unit: 3721
)
Serial No.: 10/674,431) Examiner: J. Sipos
)
Filed: October 1, 2003)
) Confirmation No.: 5659
For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR)
APPLYING CORNERBOARDS TO)
A LOAD)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In a restriction requirement dated October 5, 2004, the Examiner required
restriction under 35 U.S.C. § 121 between:

Group I, claims 1-37, 110-135, and 156, characterized by the Examiner as being
drawn to a method and apparatus for applying cornerboards and wrapping a load by
moving the cornerboards relative the load support;

Group II, claims 38-54 and 136-153, characterized by the Examiner as being
drawn to a method and apparatus for applying cornerboards and wrapping a load by
moving the cornerboards relative the cornerboard magazine;

Group III, claims 82-89, characterized by the Examiner as being drawn to a
method for applying different size cornerboards and wrapping a load;

Group IV, claims 90-109, 158, and 195-205, characterized by the Examiner as being drawn to a method and apparatus for applying cornerboards and wrapping a load by using unformed boards that are folded prior to application;

Group V, claims 55-81, 154, 157, 158, and 161-172, characterized by the Examiner as being drawn to a method and apparatus for applying cornerboards and wrapping a load by rotating the cornerboard; and

Group VI, claims 110-153, 155, 159, 160, and 173-194, characterized by the Examiner as being drawn to a method and apparatus for applying cornerboards with grippers and wrapping a load.


Applicants do not necessarily agree with the Examiner's characterizations and assertions regarding Applicants' claims and the allegedly patentably distinct groups, and Applicants reserve the right to argue the distinctiveness or lack of distinctiveness of the claim groups at a later time. Nonetheless, to expedite prosecuting, Applicants provisionally elect, with traverse, to prosecute Group IV, claims 90-109, 158, and 195-205,

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: November 4, 2004

By: 
Elizabeth M. Burke
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